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Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC) Site Waukegan, IL

Remedial Progress Update
August 2008



OMC Site - Operable Units

- 1: Waukegan Harbor
- 2: Waukegan Manufactured Gas and Coke Plant (“Waukegan Coke Plant” or “WCP”)
- 3: PCB Containment Cells
- 4: OMC Plant 2 (“OMC North Plant”)

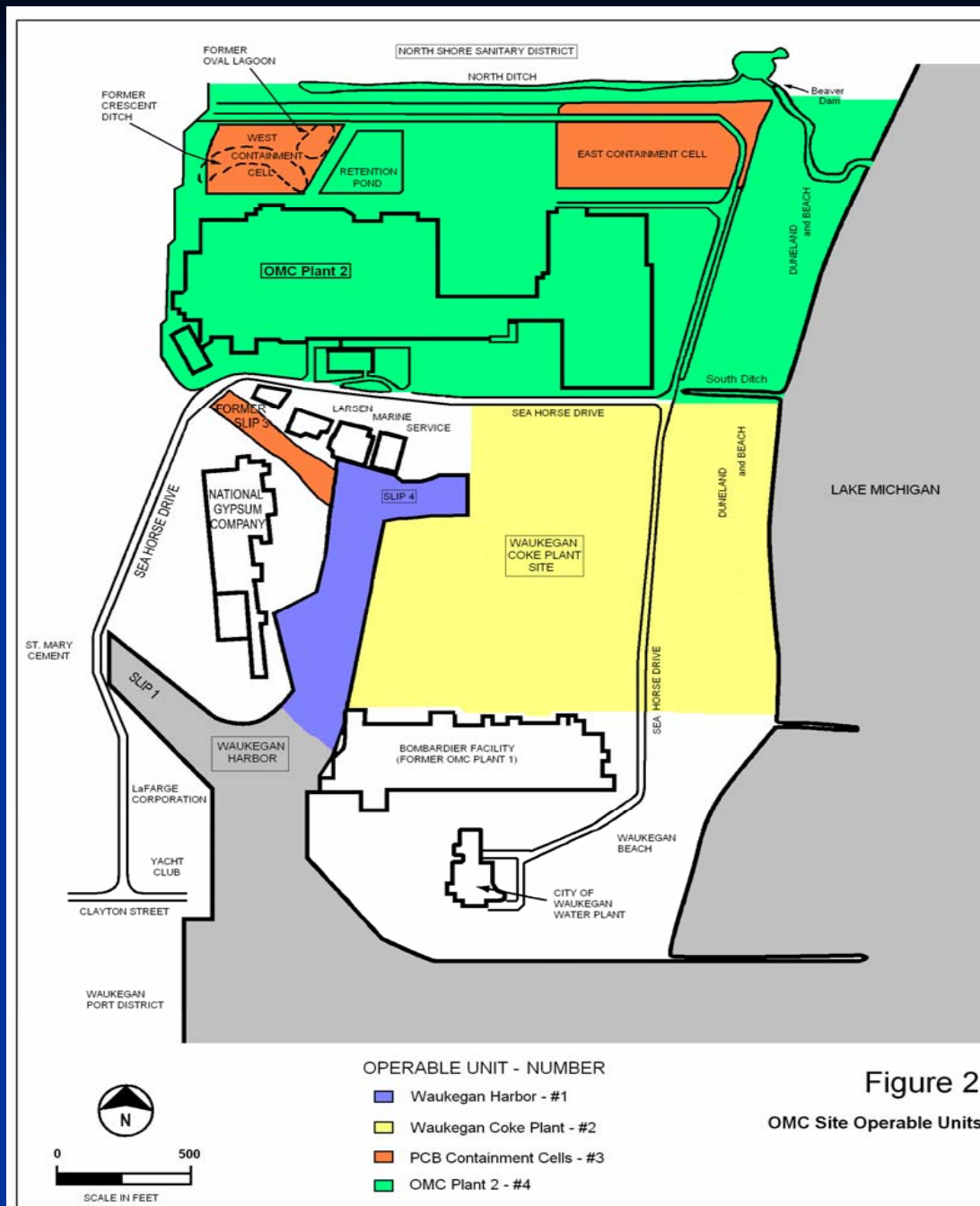


Figure 2
OMC Site Operable Units

Waukegan Harbor

Background

- Illinois discovered high PCB levels in harbor in mid-1970s.
- Illinois and U.S. sued OMC under Clean Water Act in late 1970s/early 1980s.
- Superfund enacted December 1980; EPA placed OMC site on interim NPL in 1981.

Waukegan Harbor

Background

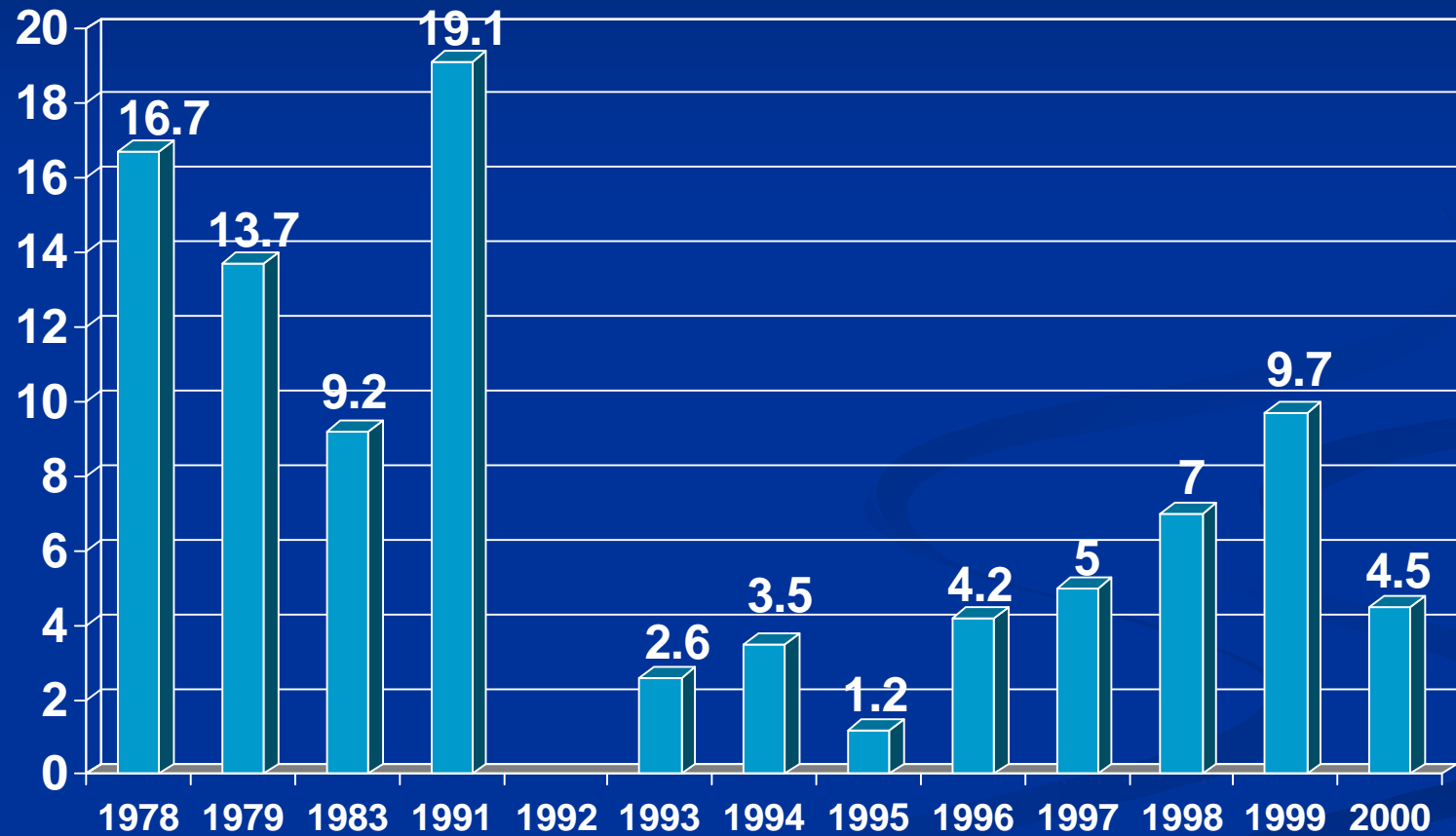
- OMC completed \$21 million Superfund cleanup action in 1990-1992.
- Only Northern Harbor area was dredged.
- 50 ppm PCB cleanup level (1984 ROD) was determined to be protective of human health.

Waukegan Harbor

Background

- Fish PCB levels fell immediately after OMC cleanup completed (1992).
- Fish PCB levels presently exceed recommended levels (2006).

Waukegan Harbor Fish PCB Levels



Waukegan Harbor

Background

- 2002 Superfund 5-Year Review of OMC Site:

Re-evaluate 50 ppm PCB sediment cleanup level
– it may not be protective because PCB levels in harbor-caught fish are still too high.

Waukegan Harbor

Background

- 2007 Superfund 5-Year Review of OMC Site:

A Surface-Weighted Average Concentration (SWAC) of 0.22 ppm PCBs in harbor sediment would be protective.

- Harbor sediment now averages 2-3 ppm PCBs.

Waukegan Harbor

Background

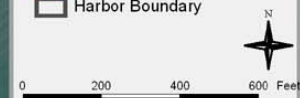
- Between Superfund 5-Year Reviews (2003-2007), EPA pursued harbor cleanup under the Great Lakes Legacy Act (“GLLA”) (enacted 2002).
- Superfund deferred harbor site to Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) but provided technical assistance during the GLLA work.
- GLNPO sampled harbor sediment in 2003 and 2005.

Waukegan Harbor

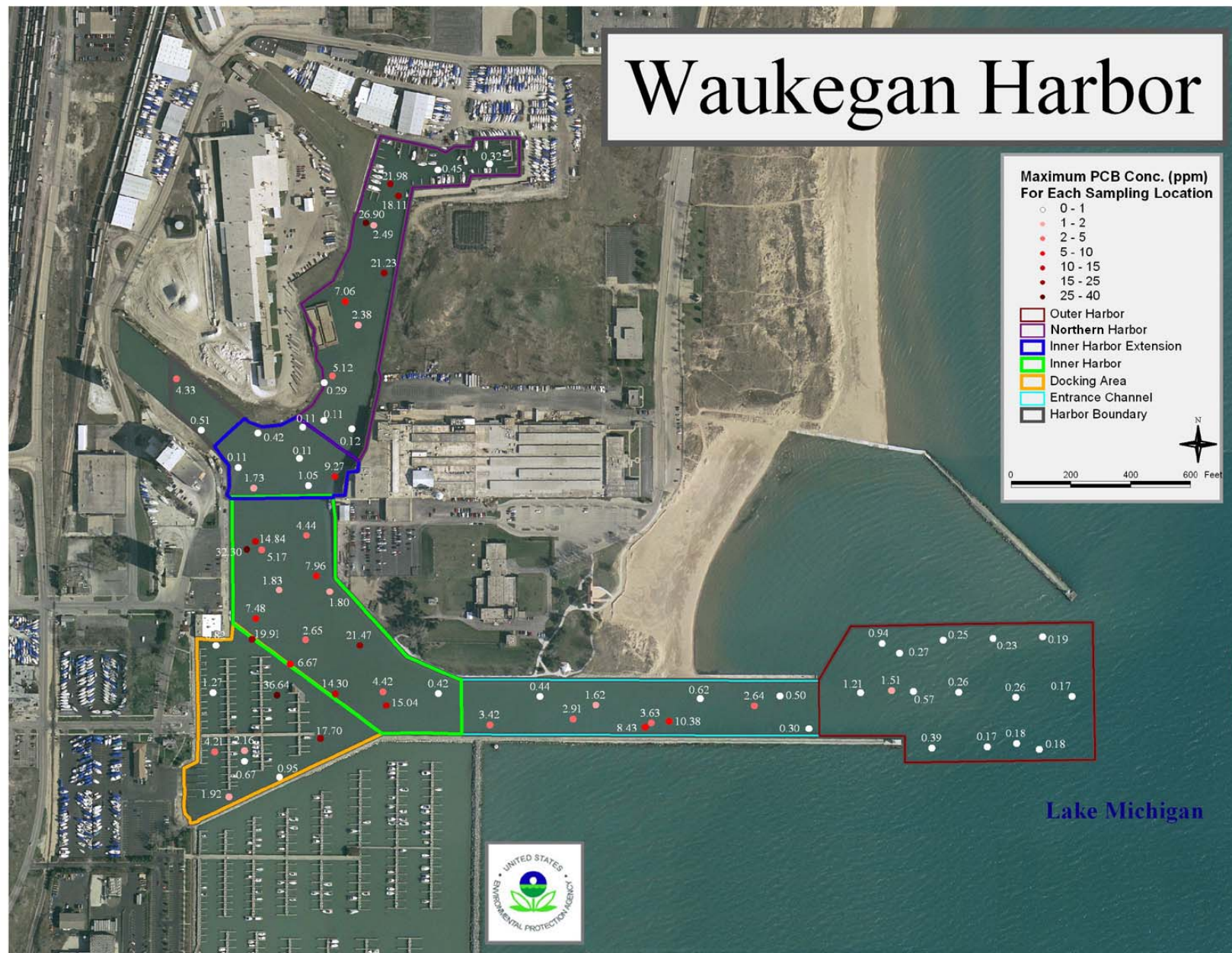
Maximum PCB Conc. (ppm)
For Each Sampling Location

- 0 - 1
- 1 - 2
- 2 - 5
- 5 - 10
- 10 - 15
- 15 - 25
- 25 - 40

- Outer Harbor
- Northern Harbor
- Inner Harbor Extension
- Inner Harbor
- Docking Area
- Entrance Channel
- Harbor Boundary



Lake Michigan



Great Lakes Legacy Act

Background

- A GLLA project addresses Beneficial Use Impairments at an “Area of Concern” site; usually addresses sediment contamination
- Requires 65% federal funds + 35% local match
- Also requires a local sponsor: City of Waukegan accepted this role for the harbor

Waukegan Harbor

Background

- Local stakeholders also included:

U.S. Army COE

Lake County, IL

State of Illinois (EPA/DNR)

Waukegan Port District

NOAA (Natural resources trustee)

Harbor industries (NGC, La Farge, St. Mary's)

Waukegan CAG

Lake Michigan Fed.

Waukegan Harbor

Background

- GLNPO conducted Superfund-type HHRA to determine protective PCB level in sediment
- Pre-design was completed in spring 2006; VE study conducted in October 2006
- Many stakeholders assisted (with VE) and agreed on cleanup direction for harbor

Waukegan Harbor

Background

- City (as sponsor) presented harbor cleanup proposal to GLNPO in February 2007
- Dredge harbor to protective PCB levels; off-site disposal of impacted sediment: \$ 35 million
- May 2007: City demanded cost ceiling and harbor closure provisions (shut out industry)

Waukegan Harbor

- Proposed GLLA project fell through in September 2007 when EPA refused conditions
- GLNPO referred site back to Superfund
- Superfund began a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (“RI/FS”) in mid-November 2007 using GLNPO data

Waukegan Harbor Alternatives

- The RI/FS Reports are complete; potential remedies:
 - No Action
 - Complete capping
 - Combination capping and dredging (2 types)
 - Complete dredging (with some cover)

Waukegan Harbor

- Superfund Division Director briefed, dredging remedy with on-site consolidation approved
- NRRB evaluation - June 18, 2008
- NRRB comments to be addressed

Waukegan Harbor

- Proposed cleanup plan released for public comment: target October 2008
- Sign Record of Decision – December 2008

Waukegan Harbor

- Complete Remedial Design - Fall 2009
- Prioritization Panel – Rank site for cleanup funding in winter 2009
- Remedial Action start – depends on ranking; the earliest would be spring 2010

Waukegan Harbor

- EPA's Contaminated Sediment Technical Advisory Group ("CSTAG") will provide a concurrent technical review with NRRB
- State Concurrence – On-going consultation with Illinois EPA

Fund Lead Sites

- Site must be ranked on a national basis for funding by EPA's RA Prioritization Panel; ranking is based on risk
- Must have State concurrence with the selected remedy and a signed State Superfund Contract ("SSC") wherein the State agrees to pay required 10 percent of the cost of the clean up

Waukegan Harbor Goals

- Continue partnerships cultivated during Great Lakes Legacy Act project discussions.
- Work closely with City of Waukegan as all OMC site cleanups are planned and implemented.
- Could there be other contributors to harbor cleanup cost? (Industries)